

CHAPTER 3

SECTION 5.9

PERCUTANEOUS TRANSLUMINAL BALLOON VALVULOPLASTY

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Authority: [32 CFR 199.4\(c\)\(2\)](#) and [\(c\)\(3\)](#)

I. PROCEDURE CODE RANGE

92986, 92987, 92990

II. DESCRIPTION

Percutaneous transluminal balloon valvuloplasty is a method of treating stenotic pulmonary, mitral, and aortic valves without open surgery. A balloon tipped catheter is passed from the femoral vein into the right atrium. From there it is threaded to the right ventricle and on to the pulmonic valve, or the atrial septum is punctured for accessing the mitral or aortic valves. When the balloon is positioned in the valve, a series of inflation-deflation cycles is required to relieve stenosis.

III. POLICY

A. Percutaneous transluminal balloon valvuloplasty is considered eligible for coverage for pulmonic valve stenosis in patients who have an otherwise malformed valve. Patients with dysplastic valves, pulmonary atresia, or other malformations that complicate the stenosis are not candidates for this procedure.

B. Percutaneous transluminal balloon valvuloplasty is eligible for coverage for the palliative treatment of symptoms in aortic stenosis in patients who are not candidates for surgical treatment.

C. Percutaneous transvenous mitral balloon commissurotomy (PTMC) is considered eligible for coverage for treatment of symptoms in mitral stenosis in patients with hemodynamically significant mitral valvular stenosis resulting primarily with commissural fusion of the mitral valve cusps.

D. The balloon tipped catheter used in this procedure must be approved by FDA for the specific use (i.e., pulmonary valve, mitral, aortic valve).

IV. EFFECTIVE DATE

A. Effective September 19, 1990, percutaneous transluminal balloon valvuloplasty.

B. Effective June 28, 1994, percutaneous transvenous mitral balloon commissurotomy (PTMC).

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